



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY, HEIDELBERG
CMR 442
APO AE 09042-0130

USAMH Memorandum
No. 40-113

5 Mar 04

Medical Services
USAMH CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

1. **HISTORY.** This is the first printing of this publication.
2. **PURPOSE.** To describe the process and procedure by which VA/DoD Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) will be incorporated into the provision of patient care within the US Army Medical Department Activity, Heidelberg (USAMH) footprint.
3. **APPLICABILITY.** This memorandum is applicable to all personnel assigned or attached to the U.S. Army MEDDAC, Heidelberg, which includes the hospital and all clinics within the footprint.
4. **REFERENCES.**
 - a. AR 40-68, Clinical Quality Management, 26 Feb 2004.
 - b. MEDCOM TSG Implementation Directives (7) 2000-2003.
 - c. Joint Commission Accreditation Manual for Hospitals edition 2004.
 - (1) LD.5.10. The hospital considers Clinical Practice Guidelines when designing or improving processes, as appropriate.
 - (2) LD.5.20. When Clinical Practice Guidelines are used, the leaders identify criteria for their selection and implementation.
 - (3) D.5.30. Appropriate leaders, practitioners, and health care professionals in the hospital review and approve clinical practice guidelines selected for implementation.
 - (4) LD.5.40. The leaders evaluate the outcomes related to use of Clinical Practice Guidelines and determine steps to improve processes.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. The Commander will direct the CPG program within HMEDDAC. Each implemented VA/DoD CPG will have an action plan that is approved by the Commander prior to implementation.

b. The Deputy Commander for Clinical Services (DCCS) will:

(1) Incorporate the utilization of approved CPGs into the patient care delivery system throughout HMEDDAC.

(2) Assign a clinical provider champion to each CPG.

(3) Direct that approved CPG be implemented throughout HMEDDAC. Each clinical chief will ensure all health care providers within their departments/services are acquainted with the treatment guidelines prescribed.

(4) Assess the organizational impact to patient care as a result of the Clinical Practice Guideline program.

c. Clinical Department/Service Chiefs will:

(1) Ensure that the treatment methodologies prescribed by each of the approved CPGs are implemented and utilized by all Health Care Providers (HCPs) working within their department /service. This includes education prior to implementation.

(2) Ensure that all new HCPs arriving within the department/service are orientated to the essential elements of the Clinical Practice Guidelines that pertain to the care provided by that department/service.

(3) Provide ongoing monitoring that supports compliance with utilization of the CPGs

d. Nursing will:

(1) Ensure that clinic staff receives orientation to the CPG prior to implementation.

(2) Support the CPG process through availability and replenishment of the support materials, as provided in the CPG tool kits.

(3) Support the gathering of data to thoroughly evaluate the effectiveness of the CPG towards improving the quality of care provided to the patients under the provisions of that guideline.

e. The UM/QM office will:

(1) Coordinate, facilitate and support all activities related to the CPG program.

(2) Provide ongoing sustainment through monitoring and tracking processes that support maximum utilization of the CPG program.

(3) Coordinate the collection and analysis of CPG data for presentation to the CPG Oversight Committee.

(4) Provide quarterly reporting of the findings and recommendations from the oversight committee to the Medical Staff Executive Committee (ECOPS).

f. The CPG Oversight Committee will:

(1) Provide oversight and guidance to the MEDCOM CPG program at HMEDDAC. To include:

(a) Implementation

(b) Review of data

(c) Recommendations

(d) Reporting

(e) Education

The proponent of this publication is the Quality Management Department. Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms), Commander, USAMH, ATTN: MCEUH-PI, APO AE 09042-0130 or call 371-2253.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



MEGHAN N. BRADY
1LT, MS
Adjutant